

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 1269

By Litz

A RESOLUTION to honor and congratulate Alice Walker Litz on the celebration of her eighty-fifth birthday.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should pay tribute to those devoted wives and mothers, proficient homemakers, and exemplary citizens who are celebrating special occasions in their estimable lives; and

WHEREAS, Alice Walker Litz celebrated her eighty-fifth birthday on March 10, 2010, a milestone that was commemorated as yet another precious souvenir of life's rich pageant; and

WHEREAS, the daughter of the late Clarence and Pearl Walker, Alice Walker Litz was born March 10, 1925, in the community of Seven Mile Ford, Virginia; and

WHEREAS, she grew up with four brothers, Harold, Richard, George, and Bob, during the Great Depression; the Walker family lived on a self-sufficient farm, so the young Alice didn't realize how bad times were for the rest of the world; and

WHEREAS, during her elementary school days, she and her brothers crossed the barn lot and a small two-lane road to attend a four-room school house, and during her high school years, she rode the school bus to town; and

WHEREAS, a shy young woman possessing the classic beauty of the 1940s, Alice Walker longed to further her education and attended Marion College, taking business classes; she later traveled to Knoxville, where she attended business school and worked while living with a cousin and his wife; and

WHEREAS, while in Knoxville, she met Tom Litz through her work and realized that they were from the same area and had distant relatives in common; during this time, there was a death in the Litz family, and Alice attended the funeral to express her and her family's condolences; and

WHEREAS, she met the charming and good-looking Howard Litz, youngest son of Tom, at the funeral; Howard's Uncle Ross was very taken with Alice, and pushed Howard into pursuing the young beauty, thinking that she would be the perfect addition to the Litz family; and

WHEREAS, Howard wisely followed Uncle Ross's advice; six months later, Howard and Alice were married, and the young bride and groom were residing in Morristown; and

WHEREAS, after moving to Morristown, Mrs. Litz began a modest life as a wife and mother, embracing the community and her husband's extended family as her own; and

WHEREAS, over the years, she worked in several jobs, but especially loved her tenure as the bookkeeper for the city schools, which were eventually consolidated into the Hamblen County School System, from which she retired; and

WHEREAS, upon moving to Morristown, Mrs. Litz joined and has since been an active member of First Baptist Church, serving on committees and as a teacher and department leader for the church she loves; and

WHEREAS, Alice Walker Litz is an incredible woman who has remained true to her life's work of raising responsible, God-loving, hard-working children, children whom she considers have made her rich in terms more important than monetary wealth; and

WHEREAS, her loved and loving children have given her grandchildren whom she truly believes are the "grandest" children in the world, grandchildren who have delighted in taking her with them to explore the small wonders in life and including her in the great adventures of exploring and discovering their world; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Litz is a woman of great love, passion, and loyalty to her family and friends, and she can be counted on in a pinch to help a neighbor or rescue a friend; and

WHEREAS, her tenderhearted compassion was demonstrated during every illness and accident her children ever had, from cut hands and scraped knees to viruses and hospital stays; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Litz was an island in their storm and a strong, calm presence during the rollercoaster ride to adulthood; even though they are now adults, she is still the wise, motherly figure from whom her children seek advice and reassurance in times of adversity and trial; and

WHEREAS, a woman of simple tastes, Alice Walker Litz delights in her garden, her flowers, and the incredible sunsets she views from her front porch; and

WHEREAS, she has a passion for cooking and has delighted many with her cakes, pies, and other treats, as well as the full meals she has served to family and friends; no one ever has gone away hungry from Alice Litz's table, because she is one great cook; and

WHEREAS, in the past, Mrs. Litz made her own clothes and even made her daughters' wedding dresses; she has also crocheted many afghans for her children, grandchildren, and special friends; and

WHEREAS, presently her favorite pastime is reading, especially her Bible, and she takes special comfort from the words printed in red; and

WHEREAS, this year, Alice Walker Litz is celebrating eighty-five years of life, a wonderful life filled with promise, love, and devotion; and

WHEREAS, we wish to grasp this golden opportunity to specially recognize one of Tennessee's most outstanding citizens on this very special occasion; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED SIXTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we hereby honor and congratulate Alice Walker Litz, a beautiful lady in many respects, a dedicated homemaker, a gifted cook, and a beloved wife, mother, and grandmother, on the celebration of her eighty-fifth birthday and extend to her our best wishes for much continued success and happiness in the years to come.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.